IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE V.RAMKUMAR

TUESDAY, THE 31ST JULY 2007 / 9TH SRAVANA 1929

Crl.Rev.Pet.No. 2886 of 2007()

CRA.225/2005 of ADDL. SESSIONS COURT (ADHOC)-II, KALPETTA
STC.446/2004 of JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE OF FIRST CLASS, KALPETTA.

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REVN. PETITIONER: REVISION PETITIONER/APPELLANT/ACCUSED

V.P.SASIKALA, W/O RAGHUVEERAN,
NADUVILATH, MANIYANCODE, MANIYANCODE P.O.

BY ADV. SRI.J.DEVADANAM
SRI.VINOD J.DEV
SRI.PRAMOD J.DEV

RESPONDENTS: RESPONDENTS/COMPLAINANT

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1. MOIDEENKUTTY, S/O.MOIDEEN,
KUTTIKKADAN VEEDU,
AMBILLERI, KALPETTA P.O.

2. STATE OF KERALA REPRESENTED BY
PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, HIGH COURT OF KERALA,
ERNAKULAM.

BY ADV. SRI.JOMMY THARIAN
PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

THIS CRIMINAL REVISION PETITION HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 31/07/2007, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY PASSED THE FOLLOWING:

V. RAMKUMAR, J.

Crl. R.P. No. 2886 OF 2007

Dated this the 31st day of July, 2007

O R D E R

In this Revision filed under Section 397 read with Sec. 401 Cr.P.C. the petitioner who was the accused in STC. No.446/2004 on the file of the J.F.C.M., Kalpetta challenges the conviction entered and the sentence passed against her for an offence punishable under Sec. 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act').

2. I heard the learned counsel for the Revision Petitioner and the learned Public Prosecutor.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the Revision Petitioner re-iterated the contentions in support of the Revision. The courts below have concurrently held that the cheque in question was drawn by the revision petitioner in favour of the complainant on the drawee bank, that the cheque was validly presented to the bank, that it was dishonoured for reasons which fall under Section 138 of the Act, that the complainant made a demand for payment by a notice in time in accordance with clause (b) of the proviso to Section 138 of the Act and that the Revision

Petitioner/accused failed to make the payment within 15 days of receipt of the statutory notice. Both the courts have considered and rejected the defence set up by the revision petitioner while entering the above finding. The said finding has been recorded on an appreciation of the oral and documentary evidence. I do not find any error, illegality or impropriety in the finding so recorded concurrently by the courts below. The conviction was thus rightly entered against the petitioner.

4. What now survives for consideration is the question as to whether a proper sentence has been imposed on the Revision Petitioner. I am, however, inclined to modify the sentence imposed on the revision petitioner provided she complies with the condition hereinafter mentioned.

5. The revision petitioner was arrested on 6.5.2007 and he is in custody ever since then. The imprisonment already undergone by the revision petitioner with an appropriate direction for compensation will meet the ends of justice. Accordingly, the sentence imposed on the revision petitioner is set aside and she is directed to pay the cheque amount of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh only) as compensation under section 357(3) Cr.P.C. within

three months from today, failing which she shall suffer simple imprisonment for three months by way of default sentence. Money, if any, paid by the revision petitioner pursuant to the orders, if any, passed by the lower appellate court shall be refunded to the revision petitioner.

This Revision is disposed of confirming the conviction but modifying the sentence as above.

(V. RAMKUMAR, JUDGE)

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